

NRCS Panama Trip 2018

Day 1

DESTINATION: PANAMA CITY, PANAMÁ

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

Question of the Day: Panama City's skyline is glamorous and lit up, while much of the country has no electricity. Or if they have it, it's unreliable and rudimentary. What do you think causes this kind of disconnect/lack of wealth distribution? (do this during our walk along the *Cinta Costera*)

Education for Sustainability: *Sustainable Economics, Strong Sense of Place*

Day 2

DESTINATION: CIUDAD DEL SABER, CANAL ZONE, PANAMA CITY, PANAMÁ OR CASCO ANTIGUO SPANISH SCHOOL, PANAMA CITY, PANAMÁ + PANAMÁ CANAL TOUR

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** How has the U.S. military affected the development of Panama? What is the good and the bad? How did the Canal change the biodiversity of Panama's *ambiente*? Do you think it was a good thing to build it? Why/why not?
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Laws and Principles that Govern the Physical and Biological World, Strong Sense of Place*

Day 3

DESTINATION: CASCO ANTIGUO SPANISH SCHOOL, PANAMA CITY, PANAMÁ + AMADOR CAUSEWAY/SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *There are 6 indigenous languages spoken in Panamá, though Spanish is the most commonly spoken language in the country. Compare this to the United States and the native cultures that live there. Based on what you know, is*

preserving indigenous language a priority in the United States? In Panamá? On what do you base your answer?

- **Education for Sustainability:** *Cultures, Preservation and Change, Strong Sense of Place*

Day 4

DESTINATION: The Azuero Peninsula, Guararé, Panamá

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *In Spanish, describe the whole experience of Corpus Christi and the “diablicos.” (Free write)*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Cultures, Tradition and Change, Strong Sense of Place*

Day 5

DESTINATION: The Azuero Peninsula, City of Chitré, Panama to Chepo de Las Minas, Herrera

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *As you ride through the countryside of the province of Herrera, what changes do you see as you exit Chitré? What kinds of jobs do you think people have in the country, or el campo? Do you think young people have a motivation to stay here? Why or why not?*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Strong Sense of Place*

Day 6

DESTINATION: Chepo de Las Minas, Herrera

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *Where do towns like this come from? Indigenous or Spanish origins? What evidence do you see of both? Also, you see that most people here are subsistence farmers. Their practice is to cut down trees from the rainforest to grow crops, which in turn creates soil erosion and water shortages. Why do you suppose that efforts over the years to educate people did not result in an instant change of heart?*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Strong Sense of Place, Multiple Ways of Knowing, Ecosystems; Cultures, Traditions and Change*

Day 7

DESTINATION: Chitré, Herrera, Panamá

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *What is similar and what is different about schools in Panama and the United States? How does it make you feel that the rest of the world “has to” learn English?*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Many Ways of Knowing, Strong Sense of Place*

Day 8

DESTINATION: Panama City, Panamá

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *Reflect on your experiences in the past 7 days. Go back and review all the new Spanish words you learned, think about the people you met and the experiences you had. Describe your experience, in Spanish or in English. (No required length)*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Strong Sense of Place*

Day 9

DESTINATION: Ithaca, NY!

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS, GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- **Question of the Day:** *Final reflections: what impacted you the most on this trip? Did your perspective on _____ (speaking Spanish, education, other cultures, development work, etc.) change? We can reflect as a group back at the hostel.*
- **Education for Sustainability:** *Inventing and Affecting the Future*